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From: Masako Ando

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Re: United States Patent Application entitled: "Sequence Control Circuit"
Serial No.: 09/816,338
Filed: March 26, 2001
Inventors: Futoshi Kawarazaki
Your Ref. No.: OSP-10258
Our Ref. No.: 034620-000088

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

Please contact Carol Diez directly with any questions or concerns regarding this transmission at 1-(408) 282-1837 or at cdiez@thelenreid.com.

In case of a problem with this transmission, please call the Fax Operator at 408.282.1866

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SV #137302 v1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Futoshi Kawarazaki, et al..
SERIAL NO.: 09/816,338
FILING DATE: March 26, 2001
TITLE: SEQUENCE CONTROL CIRCUIT
EXAMINER: Barry O'Brien (Tel.: 703-305-5864)
(Fax: 703-746-8185)
ART UNIT: 2183

Dear Examiner O'Brien,

Attached herewith is a copy of proposed amendment to claim 9 in accordance with a telephone interview between the Examiner and Masako Ando (37 CFR §10.9(b)) conducted on March 1, 2004.

In the proposed amendment, claim 9 has been written into a proper independent form by eliminating the reference to claim 1 and explicitly reciting all of the limitations in claim 1.

In proposed claim 9, "according to claim 1" is deleted; "said instruction memory address" in line 4 is changed to --an instruction memory address--; and all of the elements in claim 1 are recited as is in the wherein clause, except "an instruction memory address" in the fourth line of claim 1 is changed to -- said instruction memory address-- in the wherein clause. Thus, all of the changes are of a clerical nature and, if possible, the Examiner's amendment is respectfully requested.

With this amendment, it is respectfully asserted that any §112 issue is now eliminated, and it is respectfully requested that claim 9 be considered along with claim 1 and its dependent claims, without being subject to a Restriction Requirement.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Also attached herewith is a copy of grant of Limited Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b) for the undersigned to prosecute the patent application before the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the file record.

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP

Dated: March 1, 2004


Masako Ando

Limited Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b)

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